

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
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AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: US, EG, XF
SUBJECT: PRESS FEATURES PRESIDENT CARTER INTERVIEW: PRAISES U.S.,
COUNSELS PLO FLEXIBILITY; DETAILS U.S. PEACE PLAN

1. SECOND MAIN STORY CAIRO PRESS AUGUST 16, REPORTED WITHOUT
COMMENT, WAS PRESIDENT CARTER'S INTERVIEW WITH ABC. MAIN POINTS
PICKED
OUT WERE "CARTER CALL ON ISRAEL TO APPROVE BORDERS TO FULFILL
ARAB DEMANDS" (TEXT NOTED HE SAID "MINIMUM DEMANDS") AND
PRESIDENT'S HOPE THAT GENEVA BE RECONVENED THIS YEAR. HEADLINES
ALSO NOTED PRESIDENT CONSULTED WITH KISSINGER ON ME. WHITE HOUSE
STATEMENT ON VANCE REPORT TO PRESIDENT ON ME TOUR TREATED
FACTUALLY AS PART OF SAME STORY.

2. CAIRO VOICE OF PALESTINE AUGUST 15 RENEWED CRITICISM OF U.S., HUSA
YN
AND ISRAEL, ARGUING THAT "APPARENT" DIFFERENCES BETWEEN U.S. AND
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ISRAEL DESIGNED TO DECEIVE ARABS WHILE ISRAEL CONSOLIDATES ITS
GAINS.

3. SEMI-OFFICIAL OCTOBER MAGAZINE ARTICLE BY CHIEF EDITOR ANIS
MANSOUR, HOWEVER, DESCRIBED U.S. POSITION AS "CHARACTERIZED BY
WISDOM AND CALMNESS." VANCE WAS "CLEAR, TRUTHFUL AND SINCERE . . .
HIS EXPLANATION OF THE AMERICAN VIEWPOINT WAS CALM AND COOL. . .

AMERICAN DECLARATIONS CONFIRM THAT IT HAS ADOPTED A REALISTIC AND LOGICAL STAND."

4. MANSOUR COUNSELED PLO TO FLEXIBILITY. ARGUED THAT PALESTINIANS ARE NOW IN GOOD SHAPE INTERNATIONALLY AND NEED ONLY TO FORGE AGREEMENT AMONGST THEMSELVES. "ONLY THEY CAN SECURE THEIR INTERESTS BECAUSE THEY HAVE A GOLDEN AND FAVORABLE CHANCE. OTHERWISE WE WILL BE BACK TO SLOGANS AND DEMONSTRATIONS. WE WILL THEN FACE AGAIN THE HORRIBLE IDOL WE ONCE WORSHIPPED, NAMELY: NO TO EVERYTHING AND ANYTHING, AS IF WE DIDN'S WANT A SOLUTION."

5. MANSOUR PUT SADAT'S ADMONITIONS THAT SINAI II EXPIRES NEXT YEAR INTO PERSPECTIVE: "WE STILL HAVE MORE THAN ONE YEAR UNTIL THE SECOND DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT UXPIRES. IN MEANWHILE, WE MUST CONTINUE WITH PEACE EFFORTS UNTIL THE ABILITY TO MOVE FORWARD IS EXHAUSTED. IF THIS METHOD, WHICH IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE WORLD, DOES NOT PROVE USEFUL, THEN WE MUST ADOPT ANOTHER STAND."

6. AUGUST 16 GUMHURIYYA AND CENTER PARTY MOUTHPIECE "MISR" BOTH REPORTED ON DETAILED "CARTER PEACE PLAN" WHICH APPEARED IN PREVIOUS DAY'S ISSUE OF WEEKLY TAAWON AL-SIYASI. TAAWON, CLAIMING WELL-INFORMED DIPLOMATIC SOURCE IN BEIRUT AS ITS SOURCE (WHILE OTHER JOURNALS SOURCED THEIR STORIES TO JORDANIAN AL-RAI) RENDERED EIGHT POINT PLAN AS FOLLOWS:

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF LINK BETWEEN JORDAN AND PALESTINIAN ENTITY WHICH WILL INCLUDE WEST BANK.
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(2) GAZA WILL ALSO BE PRT OF PALESTINIAN ENTITY. ALL AREAS INHABITED BY JEWS IN GAZA WILL BE EVACUATED.

(3) ISRAEL WILL GIVE UP SINAI COMPLETELY OVER THREE STAGES AND WILL RETURN TO 1967 BORDERS.

(4) UN FORCES WILL REMAIN BETWEEN GAZA AND FIRST LINE OF EGYPTIAN FORCES (PERIOD UNSPECIFIED).

(5) GOLAN IS TO BE RETURNED TO SYRIA. IT WILL BE EVACUATED OVER THREE STAGES IN TWO YEARS AFTER CONCLUSION OF A PEACE TREATY. WHOLE OF GOLAN IS TO BE A DEMILITARIZED ZONE AND UN FORCES ARE TO REMAIN INDEFINITELY THERE.

(6) U.S. APPROVES OF AMENDING ISRAELI BORDERS TO STABILIZE SECURITY ALONG THE BORDERS.

(7) ISRAELI SETTLEMENT PROJECTS IN THE TERRITORIES WHICH WERE OCCUPIED IN 1976 ARE TO BE FROZEN.

(8) JERUSALEM IS TO REMAIN THE UNIFIED CAPITAL OF ISRAEL. A RELIGIOUS COUNCIL COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE JEWS, MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS IS TO BE IN CHARGE OF THE HOLY PLACES.

7. GUMHURIYYA'S RENDITION WAS SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME, BUT MISR'S EIGHTH POINT REFERRED TO CONVENING OF GENEVA CONFERENCE RATHER THAN JERUSALEM REMAINING AS CAPITAL OF ISRAEL. TAAWON NOTED THAT POINTS WERE NOT DISCUSSED FULLY BY SECRETARY VANCE DURING HIS TOUR AND

"IT CAN NOT BE SAID THAT THEY ARE ACCEPTABLE TO ARAB COUNTRIES.X
HOWEVER, ALL INDICATIONS ARE THAT RAPPROCHMENT BETWEEN U.S. AND PLO I
S
IN THE OFFING AND WILL TAKE PLACE AT FORTHCOMING MEETINGS IN NEW YORK
."

8. COMMENT: PRESIDENT CARTER'S REMARKS ON TERRITORIES OBVIOUSLY
WELL RECEIVED AND GIVEN BEST POSSIBLE TREATMENT. MANSOUR'S
EDITORIAL, THOUGH NOT KEYED DIRECTLY TO THEM, IS CLEAREST GOE
PUBLIC EFFORT YET TO SUPPORT U.S. INITIATIVES, NOTABLY ON
ADMISSION OF PLO TO ME DIALOGUE THROUGH ACCEPTANCE OF 242. AT SAME TI
ME,
IT SUBTLY PLACES RESPONSIBILITY FOR FURTHER PROGRESS ON PALESTINIAN
SHOULDERS AT VERY MOMENT THAT PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN BEIRUT
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IS PONDERING ITS RESPONSE TO U.S.

9. TAAWON HAS HIGH LEVEL EDITORIAL STAFF BUT LOW READERSHIP.
IT NOTEWORTHY THAT REPORTED PLAN, WHICH WE EXPECT WILL BE CREDIBLE
TO MANY EGYPTIANS, WAS PICKED UP BY JOURNAL OF SADAT'S CENTER PARTY.
THIS STRIKES US AS EFFORT BE HELPFUL TO U.S. WHILE COUNTERING
PUBLIC CONCERN THAT VANCE MISSION PRODUCED LITTLE SUBSTANTIVE
MOVEMENT TOWARDS SETTLEMENT.
EILTS

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